

Letter from Tilton C. Reynolds to Juliana Reynolds, August 17, 1864

Camp of 105 P.V.V.

Near Deep Bottom Va

Aug 17th 1864

Dear Mother,

It has been nearly a week Since I wrote to you and has been equally as long a time Since I recd any news from you. Since my last we have changed our base considerable having moved from the front of the Petersburg on to the Peninsula. We embarked at City 1st on the 13th inst & landed at deep Bottom on the morning of the 14th.

We have had some pretty severe fighting Since we came and yesterday our Regt suffered a loss which can never be replaced. Capt Craig while gallantly leading the Brigade into action was mor tally wounded and Died this morning at 3 O clock.

Col Craig was a man that was beloved & respected by all that knew him. He was brave & generous always had a kind word & a pleasant Smile for every one. In his death the Country has lost a devoted patriot the Se[r]vice a true & gallant Soldier & the Regt its friend and protector.

He was commanding the Brigade at the time of his death & when the news reached the Regt a gloom seemed to settle over all. Only the day before he was killed Gen Hancock gave him command of one of the most responsible positions on the line & nobly did he carry out every order given him.

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But now he is no more. O God that he could have been spared. It seems So hard that so noble a man must fall. O Cruel war what misery & Sorrow thou art sowing through our Land. Had the Col lived a short time he would have been awarded a Star for no Col in the Army stood higher in the estimation of the Command officers then did Col Craig.

Capt Barr was also dangerously if not mortally wounded on the same day. Only 2 Enlisted men of the Regt were killed, one of the old men & a Recruit. 23 were wounded Some mortally. Our Reynoldsville Boys are all right. I have not time to write more. We were relieved from the front line this afternoon. Your Loving Son.

Tilton Reynolds

P.S. I have written this in a great hurry & in the rain at that so you must excuse all mistakes

T.R.